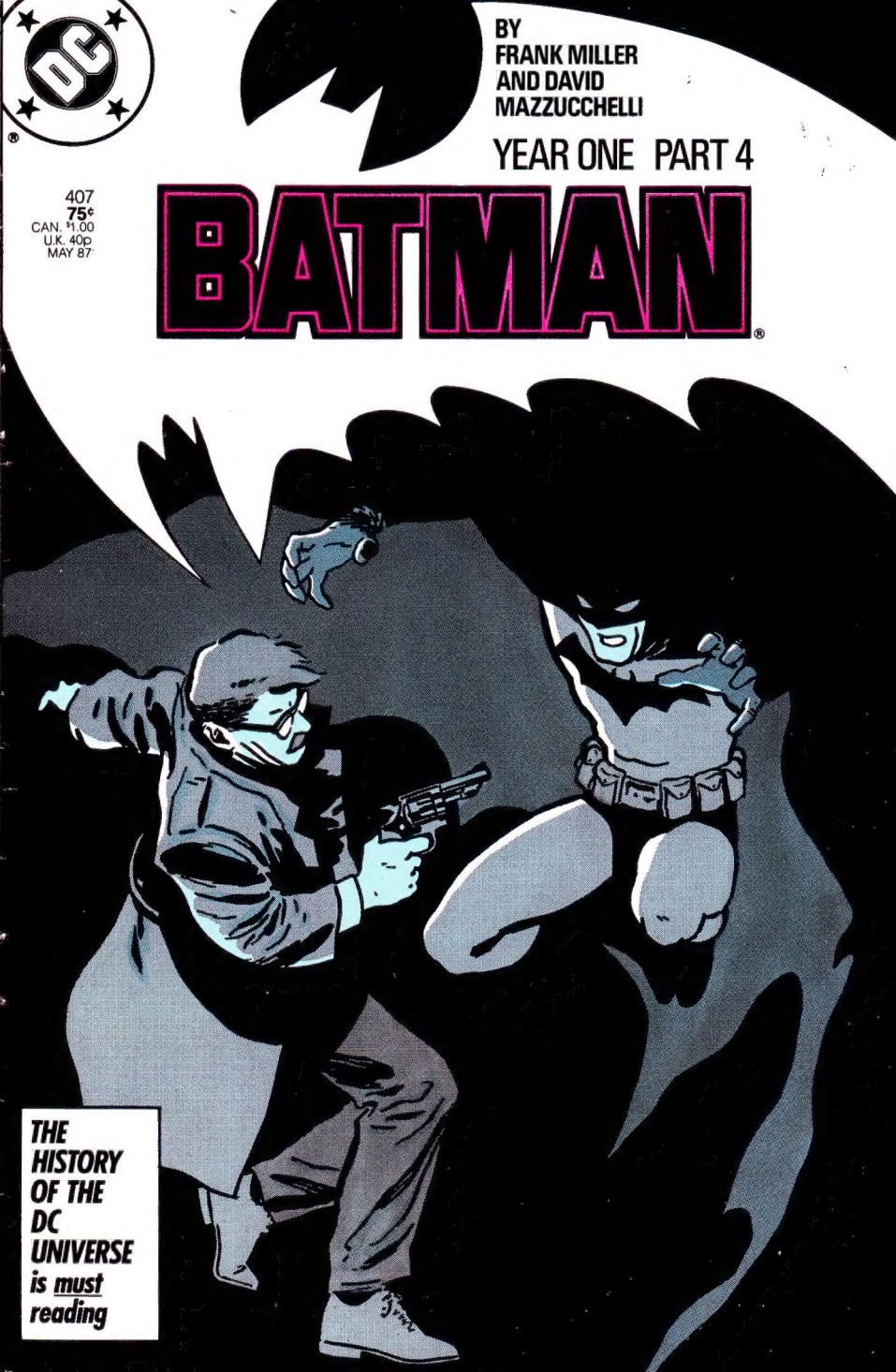
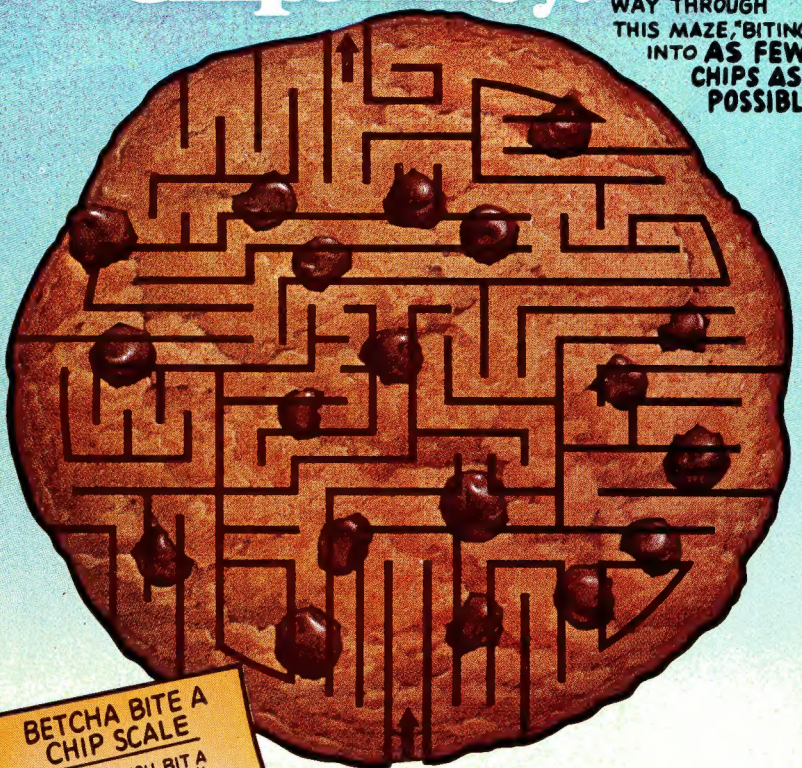

BY
FRANK MILLER
AND DAVID
MAZZUCCHELLI
YEAR ONE PART 4
BATMAN
407
75¢
CAN. $1.00
U.K. 40p
MAY 87
THE HISTORY OF THE DC UNIVERSE is must reading

BETCHA BITE A CHIP with Chips Ahoy!

THERE ARE SO MANY CHOCOLATE CHIPS IN A CHIPS AHOY! COOKIE, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO BITE A COOKIE WITHOUT BITING A CHIP. SEE IF YOU CAN "EAT" YOUR WAY THROUGH THIS MAZE, "BITING" INTO **AS FEW CHIPS AS POSSIBLE.**



BETCHA BITE A CHIP SCALE

5 OR MORE - YOU BIT A MOUTHFUL (TRY AGAIN)
4 CHIPS — CHOCOLATE MUNCHER
3 CHIPS — NOT A BAD BIT O' BITING, BUDDY
2 CHIPS — CHOOSY CHEWER
1 CHIP — CHIP SKIPPER
0 CHIPS — IMPOSSIBLE! (WE TOLD YOU)

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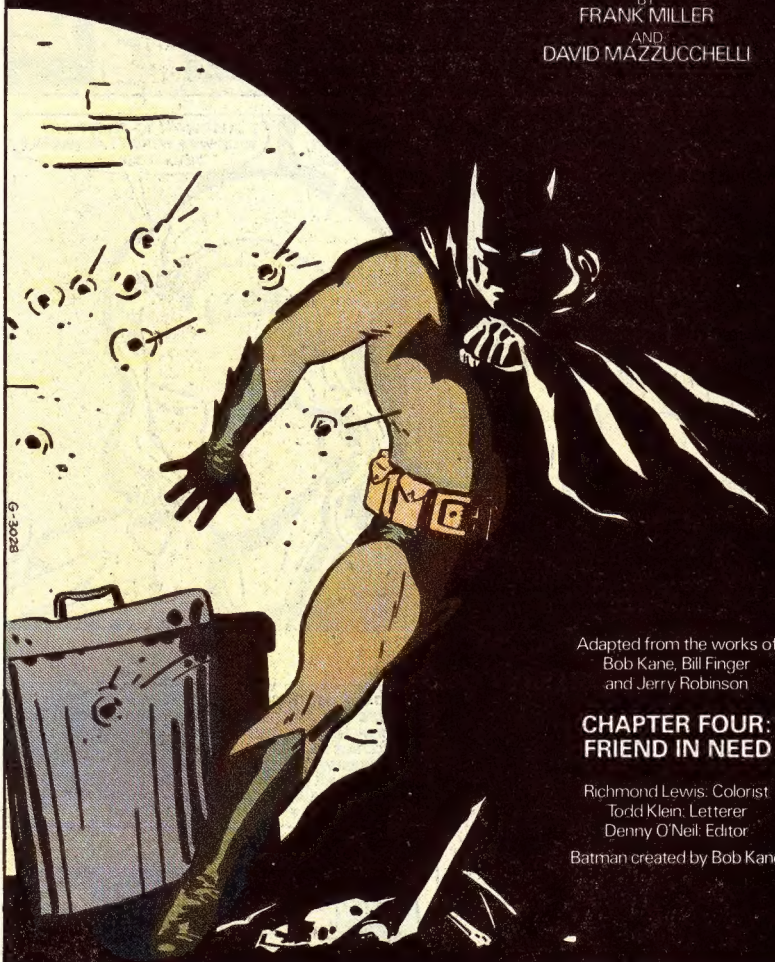
He's out to clean up a city that likes being dirty.

He can't do it alone.

BATMAN YEAR ONE

BY
FRANK MILLER
AND
DAVID MAZZUCCHELLI



G-3028

Adapted from the works of
Bob Kane, Bill Finger
and Jerry Robinson

CHAPTER FOUR: FRIEND IN NEED

Richmond Lewis: Colorist
Todd Klein: Letterer
Denny O'Neil: Editor

Batman created by Bob Kane

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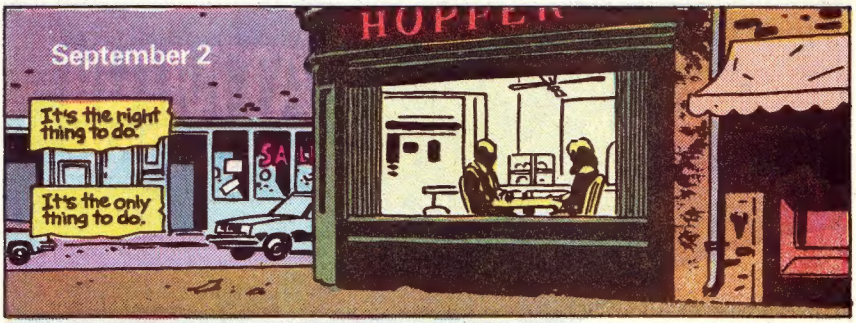
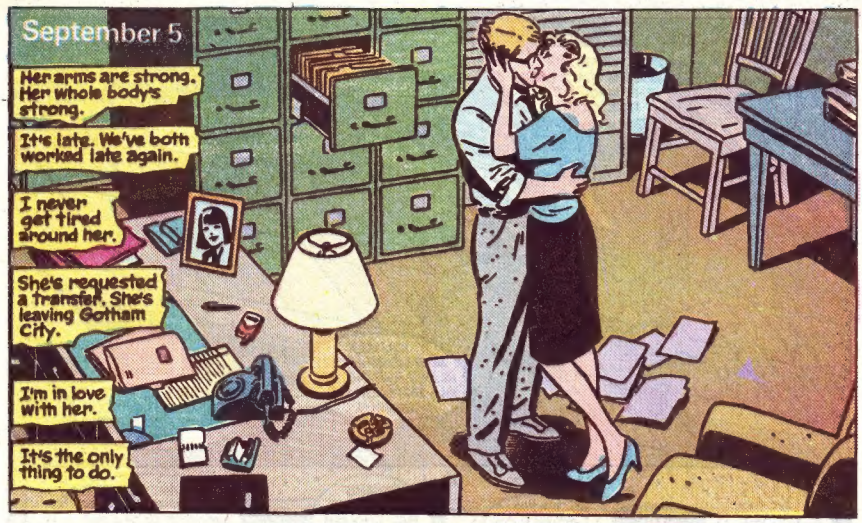


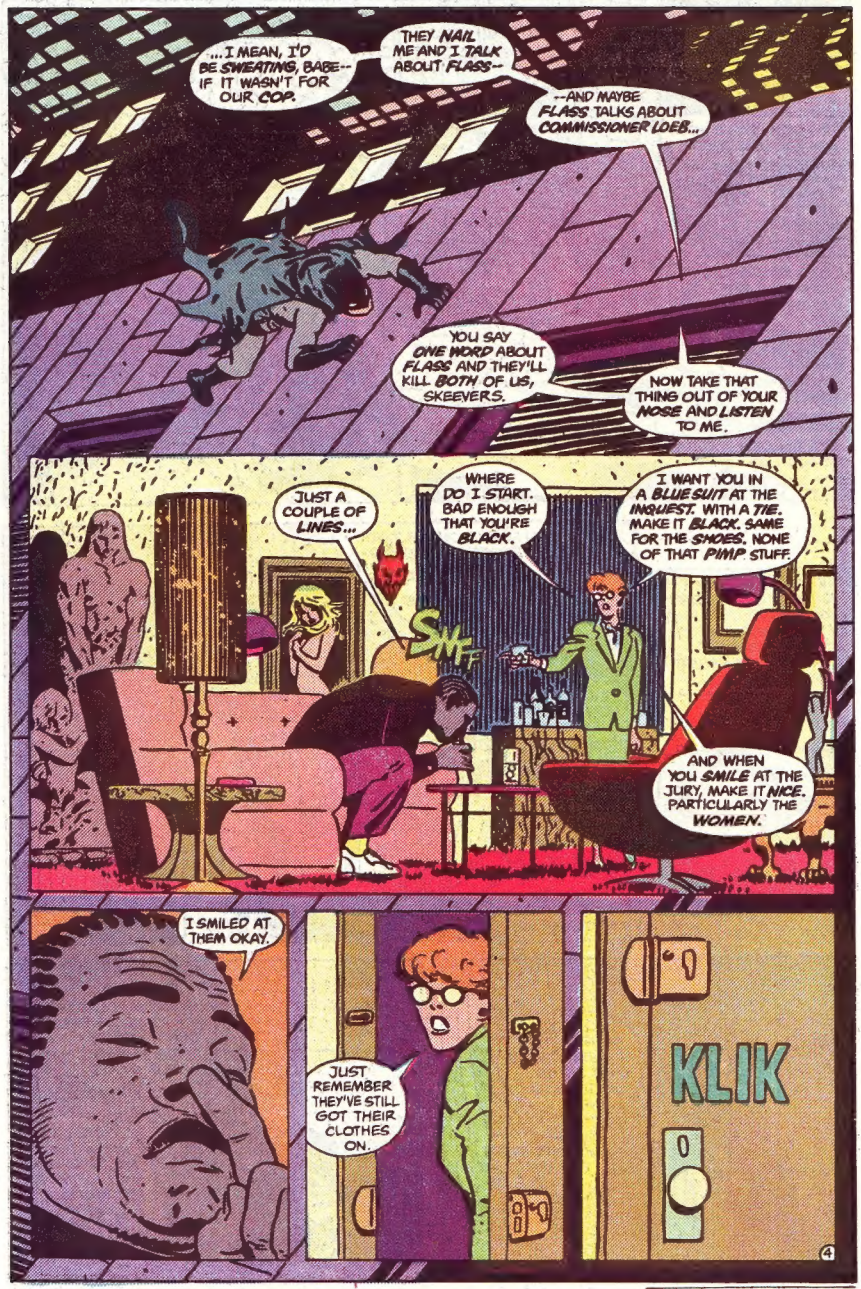
HERO COP LIEUTENANT *JAMES GORDON* TODAY APPREHENDED NOTORIOUS NARCOTICS DEALER *JEFFERSON SKEEVERS*. IT LOOKS LIKE *GORDON'S* OUT TO SET A *RECORD*. RIGHT, TOM?

IT SURE DOES, TRISH. HE'S CAUGHT A *BIG* FISH THIS TIME. IF *SKEEVERS* IS *CONVICTED*, THIS'LL BE THE *FOURTH* TIME HE GOES TO PRISON. BET THEY THROW AWAY THE *KEY*.


September 5
Her arms are strong. Her whole body's strong.
It's late. We've both worked late again.
I never get tired around her.
She's requested a transfer. She's leaving Gotham City.
I'm in love with her.
It's the only thing to do.

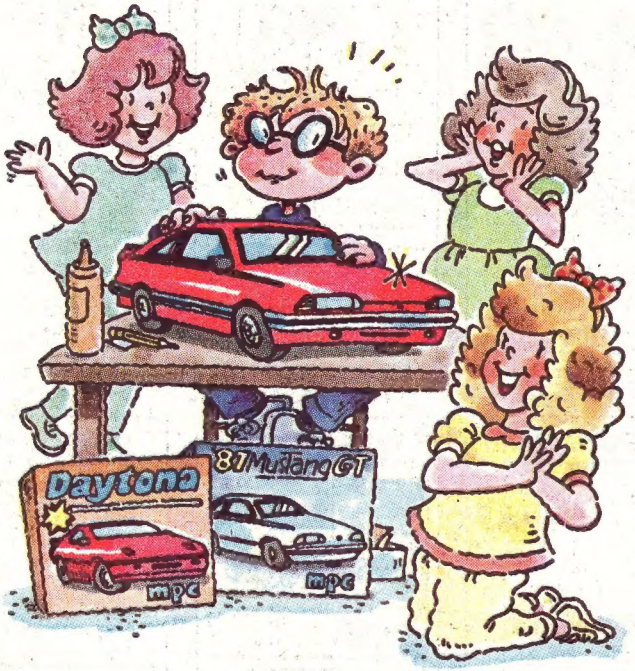
JUDGE RAFFERTY SET BAIL FOR JEFFERSON SKEEVERS. SURPRISINGLY, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY HARVEY DENT DID NOT ARGUE WITH THIS DECISION...
I KNOW YOU AREN'T ON THE TAKE-- AND I DON'T THINK YOU'RE CRAZY--
--SO TELL ME WHY YOU LET THEM LET SKEEVERS OUT ON THE STREET, DENT--
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, LIEUTENANT.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BORROW MY UMBRELLA?

NO. NO. NONE OF THAT. YOU STAY CLEAN UNTIL WE'VE GOTTEN YOU OFF.
DON'T SWEAT IT, BABE. JUST A COUPLE OF LINES.
DENT AND GORDON ARE NOT FOR YOU, SKEEVERS. THEY'D LOVE TO CATCH YOU WITH YOUR PANTS DOWN.
NNFF
CATCH ME? THEY CAUGHT ME, BABE-- AND THEY LET ME GO. AND YOU GOT ME A COURT ORDER TYING GORDON'S HANDS...


...I MEAN, I'D BE SWEATING, BABE-- IF IT WASN'T FOR OUR COP.
THEY NAIL ME AND I TALK ABOUT FLASS--
--AND MAYBE FLASS TALKS ABOUT COMMISSIONER LOEB...
YOU SAY ONE WORD ABOUT FLASS AND THEY'LL KILL BOTH OF US, SKEEVERS.
NOW TAKE THAT THING OUT OF YOUR NOSE AND LISTEN TO ME.
JUST A COUPLE OF LINES...
WHERE DO I START. BAD ENOUGH THAT YOU'RE BLACK.
I WANT YOU IN A BLUE SUIT AT THE INQUEST. WITH A TIE. MAKE IT BLACK. SAME FOR THE SHOES. NONE OF THAT PIMP STUFF.
SMF
AND WHEN YOU SMILE AT THE JURY, MAKE IT NICE. PARTICULARLY THE WOMEN.
I SMILED AT THEM OKAY.
JUST REMEMBER THEY'VE STILL GOT THEIR CLOTHES ON.
KLIK
4

CONTINUED ON 382 PAGE FOLLOWING.

BUILD A REPUTATION.



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MINDBOGGLER

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WANTED: BY THE E.B.I.

BRONZE TIGER

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DANGEROUS

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WANTED FOR CRIME

PLASTIQUE

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INTERPOL *BULLETIN*

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DEADSHOT

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WANTED: BY THE E.B.I.

LOREM IPSUM DOLOR SIT AMET ALIQUAM ERAT VOLUPAT UT ENIM

ENCHANTRESS

Invitat igitur vera ratio bona sentios ad iustitiami qui indent aut inuisto fact est cond que neg facile.

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WANTED: BY THE E.B.I.

CAPTAIN BOOMERANG

Temporem autem quinsud eveniet ut er

SUICIDE SQUAD*

THEY GET A CHANCE TO DIE FOR THEIR COUNTRY

A NEW DC MONTHLY SERIES. ON SALE IN FEBRUARY

JOHN OSTRANDER
LUKE McDONNELL
KARL KESEL

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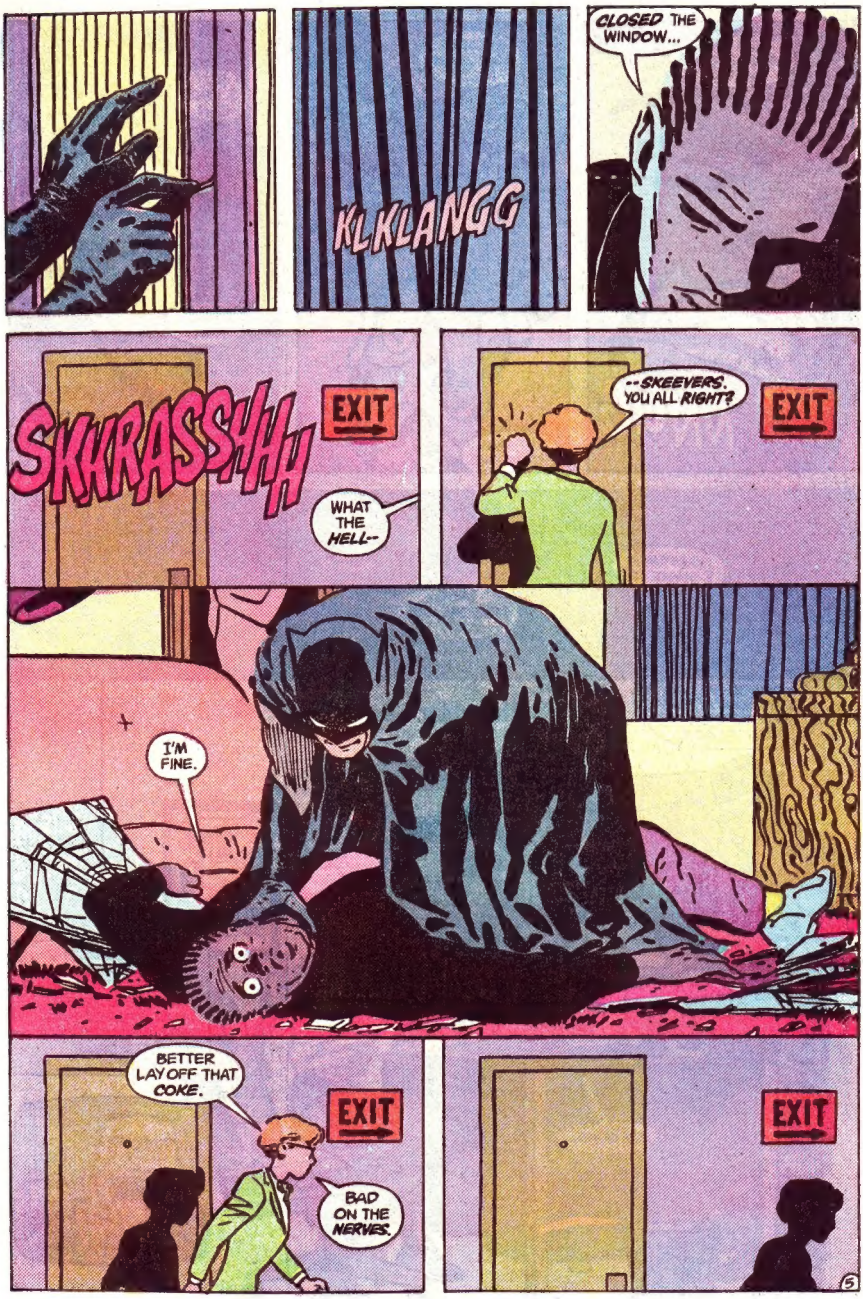
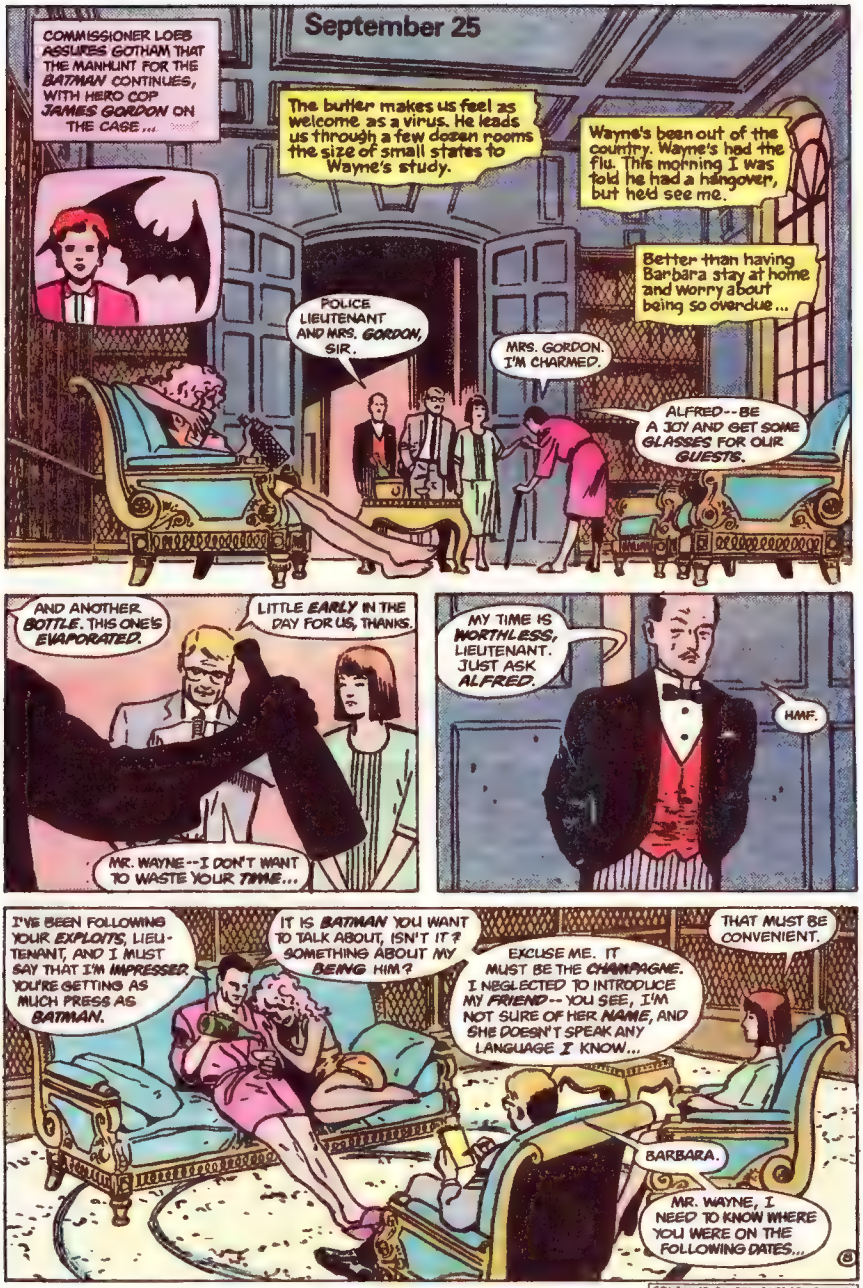
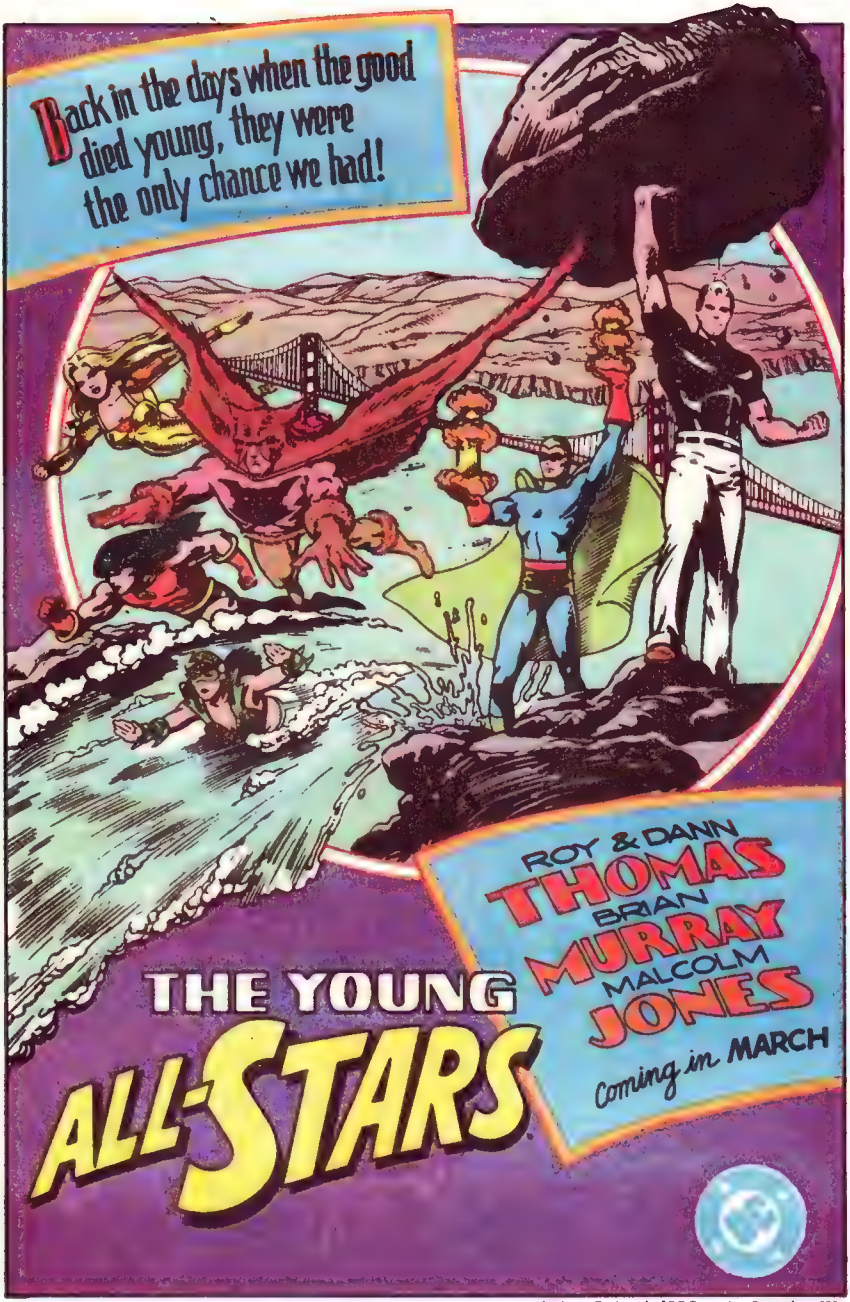

KLKLANGG
CLOSED THE WINDOW...
SKKRASSHHH
EXIT
WHAT THE HELL--
--SKEEVERS, YOU ALL RIGHT?
EXIT
I'M FINE.
BETTER LAY OFF THAT COKE.
EXIT
BAD ON THE NERVES.
EXIT
5

YOU CAN NEVER ESCAPE ME.
NNGG
BULLETS DON'T HARM ME.
NOTHING HARMS ME.
BUT I KNOW PAIN.
I KNOW PAIN.
SOMETIMES I SHARE IT.
WITH SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
September 12
WANT TO TALK TO DENT. COP A PLEA. WANT TO TALK. ABOUT FLASS.
MERKEL. GET DENT.
FORGET TO TELL THE COMMISSIONER.
SOURCES INSIDE THE POLICE DEPARTMENT REVEALED THAT GOTHAM POLICE DETECTIVE ARNOLD FLASS HAS BEEN IMPLICATED IN SKEEVERS' DRUG OPERATION...
I'M GONE...
6

September 13
DETECTIVE FLASS IS A FRIEND OF MINE, GORDON. YOU MIGHT HAVE AT LEAST INFORMED ME OF YOUR PLANS BEFORE HANDING HIS HEAD TO INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
IT WAS A SLIP, SIR. EVERYBODY'S WORKING SUCH LONG HOURS.
GILLIAN B. L
COMMISSIONER OF POLICE
FRIENDSHIP, GORDON. LOYALTY. THESE WORDS STILL COUNT FOR SOMETHING IN GOTHAM CITY.
WE TOOK YOU IN. YES WE DID. BLEMISHES AND ALL. AND YOU DO HAVE YOUR BLEMISHES. AND YOU GO AND--
GAZETTE
ARROW SMASHES DRUG RING
STOP
I'VE DONE EXACTLY WHAT I PROMISED, COMMISSIONER. YOU GET MY BEST WORK.
YOU GET GOOD PRESS, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.
THEY LIKE YOU, DON'T THEY, AGEE AND HIS PACK AT THE GAZETTE.
BUT THEY DON'T KNOW YOU. NO THEY DON'T.
NOT THE WAY WE KNOW YOU.
TERRIBLE IF THEY--OR YOUR WIFE--LEARNED OF THE SPECIAL NATURE OF YOUR RELATIONSHIP--
-- WITH SERGEANT ESSEN.
WALLS HAVE EARS, JIMMY.
7


September 25
COMMISSIONER LOEB ASSURES GOTHAM THAT THE MANHUNT FOR THE BATMAN CONTINUES, WITH HERO COP JAMES GORDON ON THE CASE...
The butler makes us feel as welcome as a virus. He leads us through a few dozen rooms the size of small states to Wayne's study.
Wayne's been out of the country. Wayne's had the flu. This morning I was told he had a hangover, but he'd see me.
Better than having Barbara stay at home and worry about being so overdue...
POLICE LIEUTENANT AND MRS. GORDON, SIR.
MRS. GORDON. I'M CHARMED.
ALFRED--BE A JOY AND GET SOME GLASSES FOR OUR GUESTS.
AND ANOTHER BOTTLE. THIS ONE'S EVAPORATED.
LITTLE EARLY IN THE DAY FOR US, THANKS.
MR. WAYNE--I DON'T WANT TO WASTE YOUR TIME...
MY TIME IS WORTHLESS, LIEUTENANT. JUST ASK ALFRED.
HMF.
I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING YOUR EXPLOITS, LIEUTENANT, AND I MUST SAY THAT I'M IMPRESSED. YOU'RE GETTING AS MUCH PRESS AS BATMAN.
IT IS BATMAN YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT, ISN'T IT? SOMETHING ABOUT MY BEING HIM?
EXCUSE ME. IT MUST BE THE CHAMPAGNE. I NEGLECTED TO INTRODUCE MY FRIEND--YOU SEE, I'M NOT SURE OF HER NAME, AND SHE DOESN'T SPEAK ANY LANGUAGE I KNOW...
THAT MUST BE CONVENIENT.
BARBARA.
MR. WAYNE, I NEED TO KNOW WHERE YOU WERE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES...

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING



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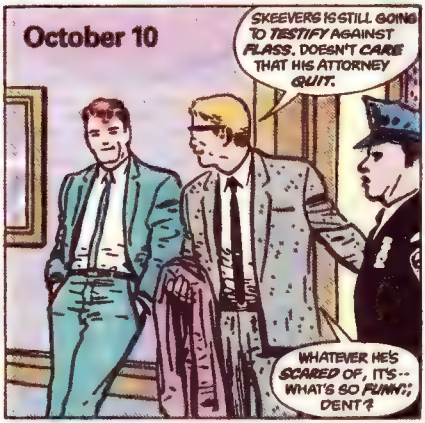
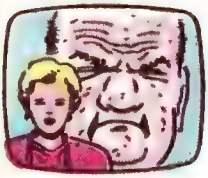
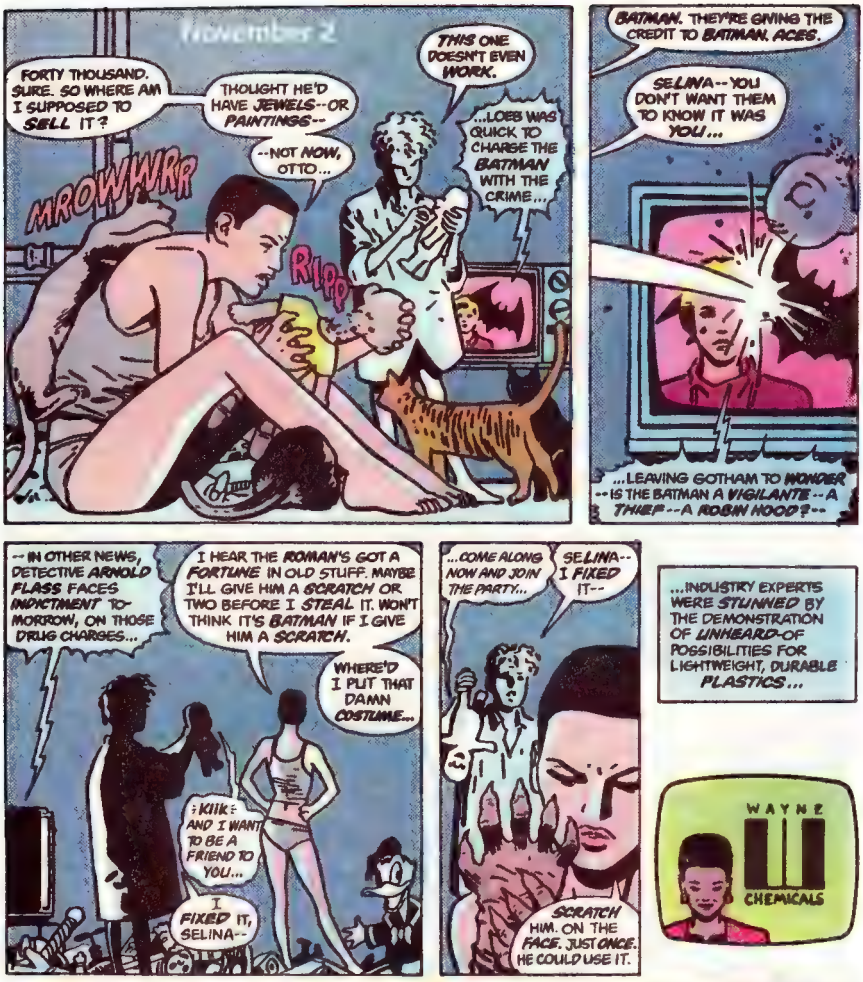
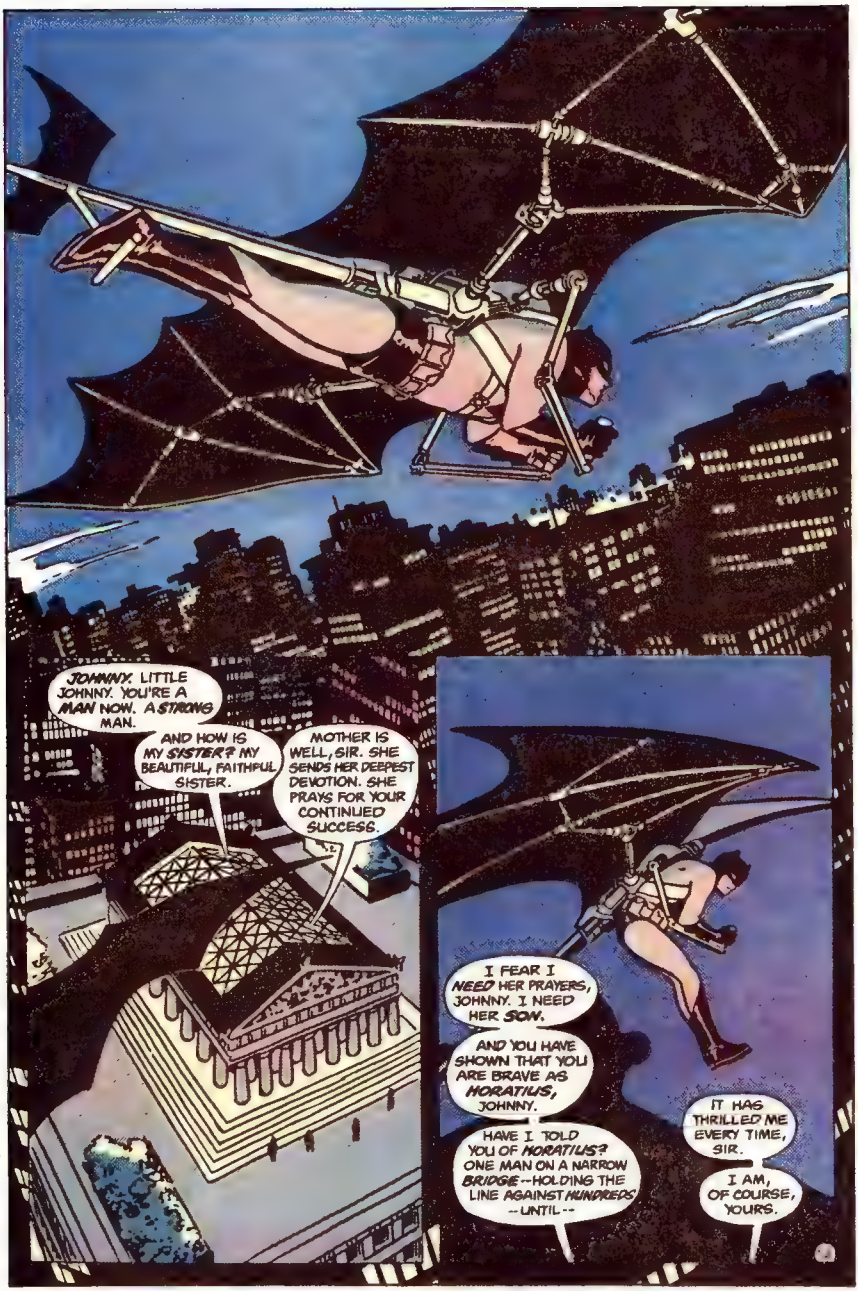
He laughs, and rings for his butler. His butler brings his datebook.
I could auction off the phone numbers in his datebook for a fortune.
They're all women. They're all famous. They're all beautiful.
HE'S A PIG, JIM.
HE'S ACTING LIKE ONE, THAT'S FOR SURE ... BUT...
...BUT ANY MAN WHO'D WEAR A CAPE -- AND IT'S A CAPE, NOT WINGS, I'VE SEEN IT --
--ANYBODY WHO'D WEAR A CAPE AND HUNT CRIMINALS MIGHT GO PRETTY FAR TO KEEP HIS SECRETS...
... SECRETS, DAMN IT ALL...
JIM -- WHY ARE YOU STOPPING?
HONEY, THERE'S SOMETHING WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT.
TEN MINUTES HE'S BEEN THERE ...
... NOW HE'S MOVING. GOOD.
ALFRED -- HOW DID YOU LIKE MY PERFORMANCE?
POSITIVELY VAUDEVILLIAN, SIR. I GATHER THE REMAINING BOTTLE OF CLUB SODA MAY BE LEFT IN ITS PROPER CONTAINER?
HMF. I SUPPOSE YOU'LL TAKE UP FLYING NEXT--
--LIKE THAT FELLOW IN METROPOLIS.
SKEEVERS TOLD US WHERE, WHEN, AND HOW MUCH MONEY YOU RECEIVED, FLASS.
October 2
AND YOU'VE BEEN SPENDING A LOT MORE THAN YOU'RE EARNING...
YOU'RE FACING TEN YEARS IN PRISON, FLASS.
THAT'S IF SKEEVERS IS ALIVE ENOUGH TO TESTIFY.
MY CLIENT DIDN'T MEAN THAT...
9

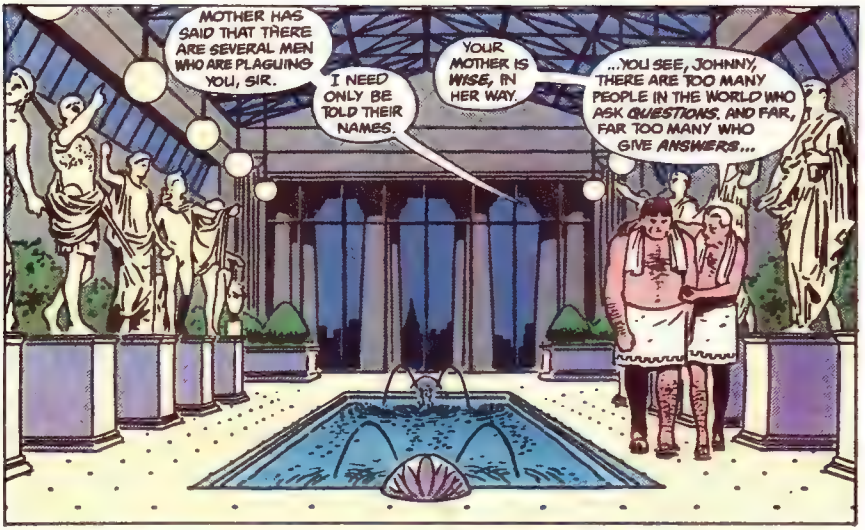

October 10
SKEEVERS IS STILL GOING TO TESTIFY AGAINST FLASS. DOESN'T CARE THAT HIS ATTORNEY QUIT.
WHATEVER HE'S SCARED OF, IT'S-- WHAT'S SO FUNNY, DENT?

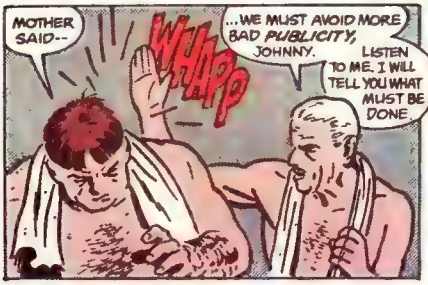
...FOURTH IN A DARING SERIES OF CAT BURGLARIES. COMMISSIONER LOEB'S PRIVATE COLLECTION OF POP MEMORABILIA IS VALUED AT FORTY THOUSAND DOLLARS...




November 2
FORTY THOUSAND. SURE. SO WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO SELL IT?
THOUGHT HE'D HAVE JEWELS--OR PAINTINGS--
--NOT NOW, OTTO...
THIS ONE DOESN'T EVEN WORK.
...LOEB WAS QUICK TO CHARGE THE BATMAN WITH THE CRIME...
MROWWRR
RIP!
BATMAN. THEY'RE GIVING THE CREDIT TO BATMAN. ACES.
SELINA--YOU DON'T WANT THEM TO KNOW IT WAS YOU!...
...LEAVING GOTHAM TO WONDER --IS THE BATMAN A VIGILANTE--A THIEF--A ROBIN HOOD?--
--IN OTHER NEWS, DETECTIVE ARNOLD FLASS FACES INDICTMENT TOMORROW, ON THOSE DRUG CHARGES...
I HEAR THE ROMAN'S GOT A FORTUNE IN OLD STUFF. MAYBE I'LL GIVE HIM A SCRATCH OR TWO BEFORE I STEAL IT. WON'T THINK IT'S BATMAN IF I GIVE HIM A SCRATCH.
WHERE'D I PUT THAT DAMN COSTUME...
;Klik; AND I WANT TO BE A FRIEND TO YOU...
I FIXED IT, SELINA--
...COME ALONG NOW AND JOIN THE PARTY...
SELINA--I FIXED IT--
SCRATCH HIM. ON THE FACE. JUST ONCE. HE COULD USE IT.
...INDUSTRY EXPERTS WERE STUNNED BY THE DEMONSTRATION OF UNHEARD-OF POSSIBILITIES FOR LIGHTWEIGHT, DURABLE PLASTICS...
WAYNE
CHEMICALS

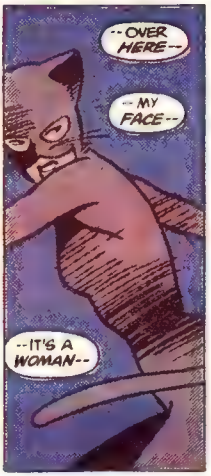

JOHNNY. LITTLE JOHNNY. YOU'RE A MAN NOW. A STRONG MAN.
AND HOW IS MY SYSTER? MY BEAUTIFUL, FAITHFUL SISTER.
MOTHER IS WELL, SIR. SHE SENDS HER DEEPEST DEVOTION. SHE PRAYS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUCCESS.
I FEAR I NEED HER PRAYERS, JOHNNY. I NEED HER SON.
AND YOU HAVE SHOWN THAT YOU ARE BRAVE AS HORATIUS, JOHNNY.
HAVE I TOLD YOU OF HORATIUS? ONE MAN ON A NARROW BRIDGE--HOLDING THE LINE AGAINST HUNDREDS, --UNTIL--
IT HAS THRILLED ME EVERY TIME, SIR.
I AM, OF COURSE, YOURS.


MOTHER HAS SAID THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL MEN WHO ARE PLAGUING YOU, SIR.
I NEED ONLY BE TOLD THEIR NAMES.
YOUR MOTHER IS WISE, IN HER WAY.
...YOU SEE, JOHNNY, THERE ARE TOO MANY PEOPLE IN THE WORLD WHO ASK QUESTIONS. AND FAR, FAR TOO MANY WHO GIVE ANSWERS...

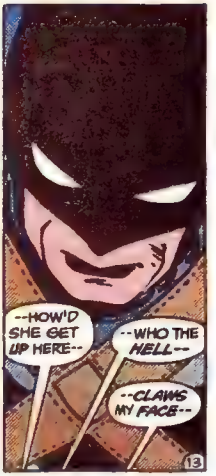

MOTHER SAID--
WHIPP
...WE MUST AVOID MORE BAD PUBLICITY, JOHNNY.
LISTEN TO ME. I WILL TELL YOU WHAT MUST BE DONE.

OVER THERE--
IT'S--
HSSSSSSS

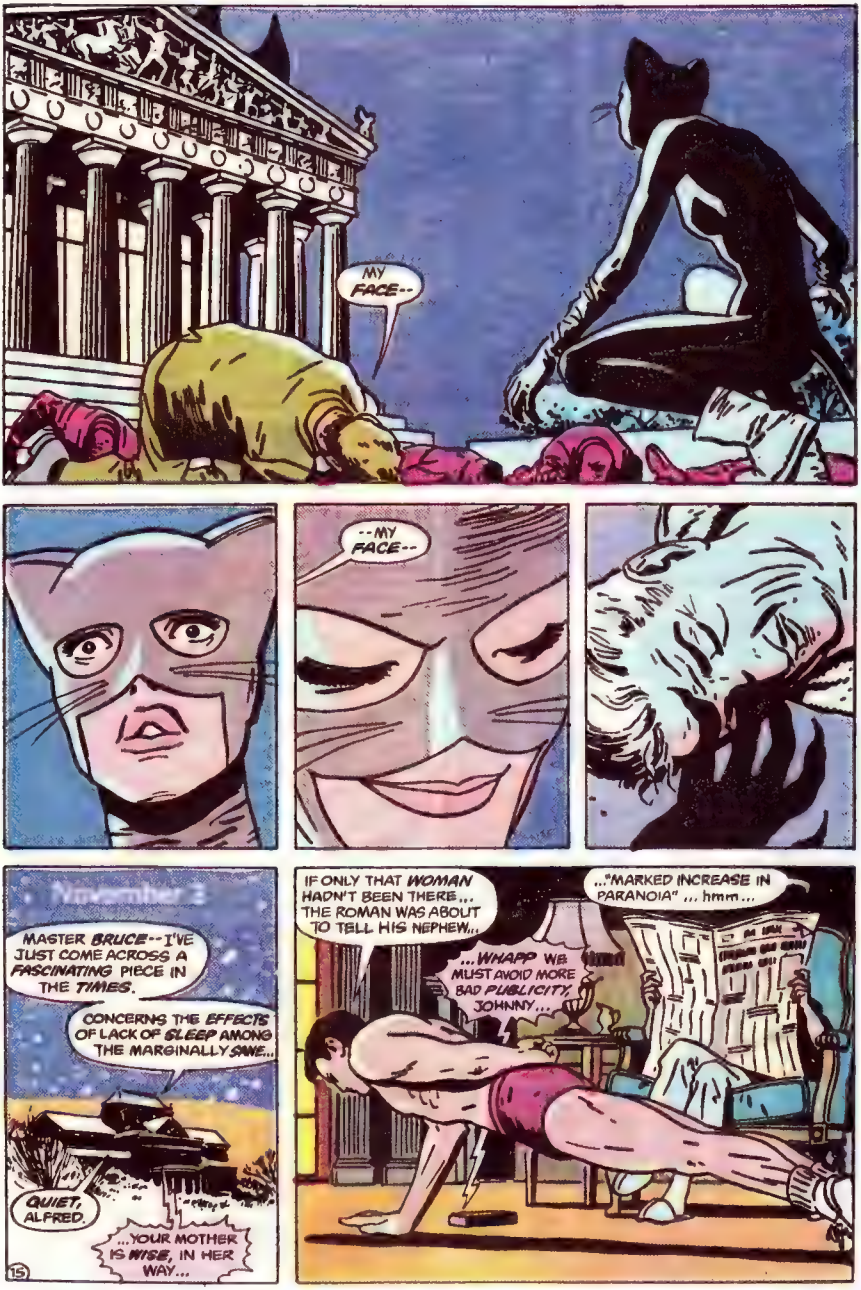
--IT'S A WOMGGAHH
SSSS

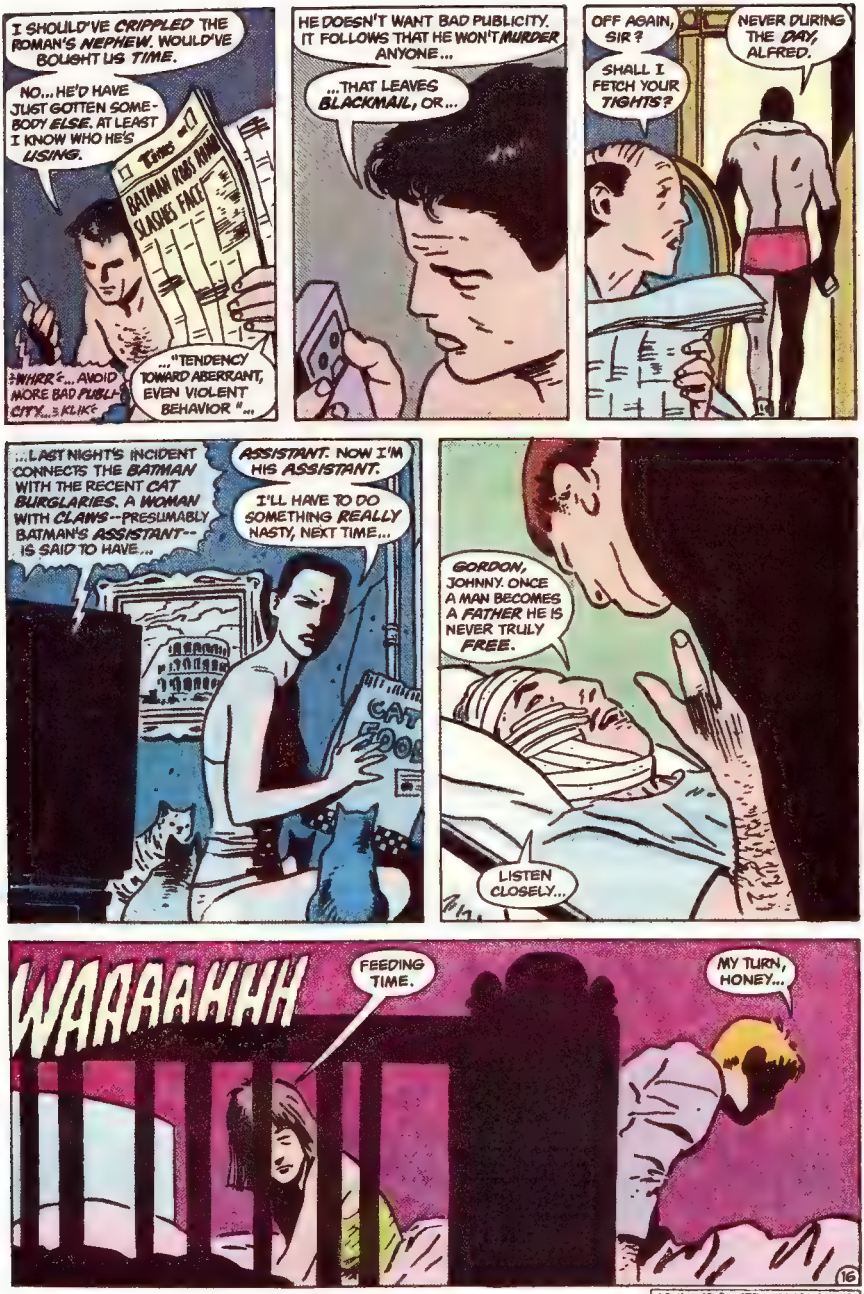

--OVER HERE--
--MY FACE--
--IT'S A WOMAN--

WHAT'S GOING ON OUT--
--LET GO OF ME YOU IDIOT--


--HOW'D SHE GET UP HERE--
--WHO THE HELL--
--CLAWS MY FACE--

BATMAN. YOU WORK FOR THE BATMAN.
I WANT HER ALIVE.
IN PAIN.
--HOW'D SHE GET UP HERE--
--OH GOD SOMEBODY HELP ME--
JOHNNY.
SNAKK
YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE.
JOHNNY?
THUNK
WHAT THE--
--BATMAN--
--IT'S BING
THUNK
-- MY GOD IT'S--
--WHERE--
THUNK
WASTING MY TIME--
14


MY FACE--
--MY FACE--
November 2
MASTER BRUCE--I'VE JUST COME ACROSS A FASCINATING PIECE IN THE TIMES.
CONCERNS THE EFFECTS OF LACK OF SLEEP AMONG THE MARGINALLY SANE...
QUIET, ALFRED.
...YOUR MOTHER IS WISE, IN HER WAY...
15
IF ONLY THAT WOMAN HADN'T BEEN THERE... THE ROMAN WAS ABOUT TO TELL HIS NEPHEW...
..."MARKED INCREASE IN PARANOIA" ... hmm...
...WHAPP WE MUST AVOID MORE BAD PUBLICITY, JOHNNY...


I SHOULD'VE CRIPPLED THE ROMAN'S NEPHEW. WOULD'VE BOUGHT US TIME.
NO... HE'D HAVE JUST GOTTEN SOMEBODY ELSE. AT LEAST I KNOW WHO HE'S USING.
TIMES
BATMAN ROBS ROMAN SLASHES FACE
...WHRR... AVOID MORE BAD PUBLICITY... KLIK
..."TENDENCY TOWARD ABERRANT, EVEN VIOLENT BEHAVIOR"...
HE DOESN'T WANT BAD PUBLICITY. IT FOLLOWS THAT HE WON'T MURDER ANYONE...
...THAT LEAVES BLACKMAIL, OR...
OFF AGAIN, SIR?
SHALL I FETCH YOUR TIGHTS?
NEVER DURING THE DAY, ALFRED.
...LAST NIGHT'S INCIDENT CONNECTS THE BATMAN WITH THE RECENT CAT BURGLARIES. A WOMAN WITH CLAWS--PRESUMABLY BATMAN'S ASSISTANT--IS SAID TO HAVE...
ASSISTANT. NOW I'M HIS ASSISTANT.
I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING REALLY NASTY, NEXT TIME...
CAT FOOD
GORDON, JOHNNY. ONCE A MAN BECOMES A FATHER HE IS NEVER TRULY FREE.
LISTEN CLOSELY...
WAAAAHHH
FEEDING TIME.
MY TURN, HONEY...
16

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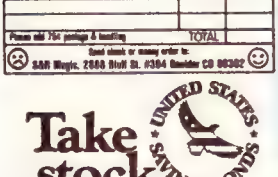

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WAAH
CLINK
WAHHH
RINGG
WAAAAAAAHHH
...YES, COMMISSIONER...
...SIR, MERKEL'S ON DUTY. HE CAN--
...YES, SIR. ON MY WAY.
GORDON IS LEAVING HIS APARTMENT. TELL THE ROMAN.
Third-rate witness in a nickel-and-dime open-and-shut domestic grievance and Loeb knows I've only had two hours sleep--
Maniac--
--should arrest the--
--wait a minute...
SCREEECHH

...heading into my building's garage-- I don't recognize him--
--suddenly my stomach's cold as death and I'm twisting the wheel again--
--nickel-and-dime domestic--
--getting me out of the apartment--
SCREECH!!
--Barbara--
--James--
--no sign of the motorcycle-- plenty of places to hide in here--
--come on-- come on-- I'm ready for you--
WWAAAUUHH
DROP THE GUN, LIEUTENANT. GO TO THE OFFICE. WAIT FOR OUR CALL.
JIM--

JIM--
If I let them go, they're dead--
KBLAMM
--can't go for a wound--
BLAMM
-- Good, Barbara --stay low--
NNGG
BLAMM
--caught one in the shoulder--
--throws my aim off-- just for a second--
WASN'T SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN--
BLAMM
GET OUT OF HERE--HE'S CRAZY--
KRREEE
SKREEEE
Behind me a motorcycle starts--
19

BLAMM
GET OUT OF HERE, BARBARA--CALL A COP--
There--I can still see them--
--James--
DON'T--I'LL KILL YOU--
MRS. GORDON. YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME.
I WON'T LET YOUR BOY DIE.
20

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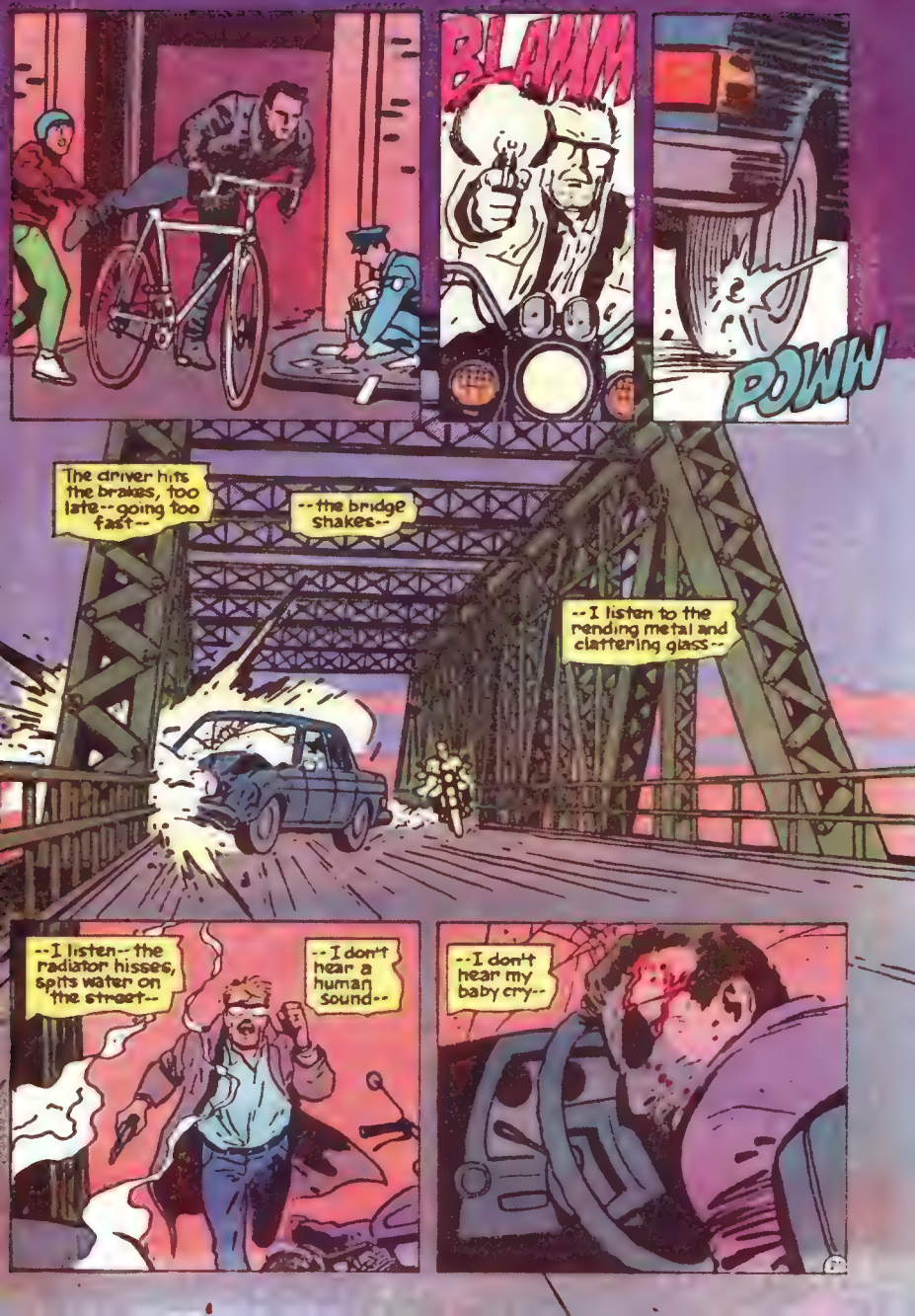
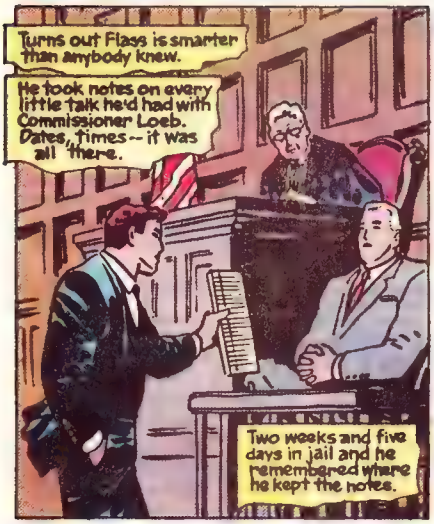

BLAMM
POWW
The driver hits the brakes, too late--going too fast--
--the bridge shakes--
--I listen to the rending metal and clattering glass--
--I listen--the radiator hisses, spits water on the street--
--I don't hear a human sound--
--I don't hear my baby cry--

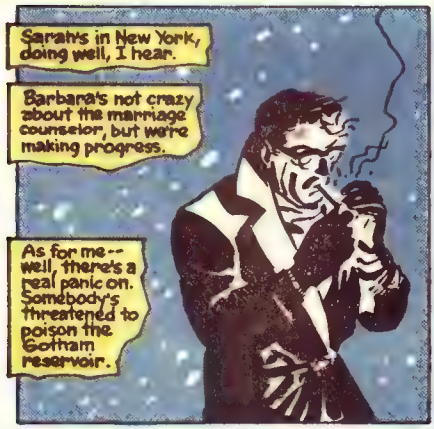
WHUMPP
NNGG
--the metal rail digs into my back--
--he's heavy--
NO--
NO

WWAAAHHHH
WAAAAAAHHHHH
WAAAHHHHGLBB
THAT'S RIGHT. GOOD BOY. SETTLE DOWN, NOW. YOU'RE SAFE.
YOU MUST BE WEARING SOME ARMOR UNDER THAT JACKET.
YES.
YOU KNOW, I'M PRACTICALLY BLIND WITHOUT MY GLASSES.
SIRENS COMING. YOU'D BETTER GO.
23


Turns out Flass is smarter than anybody knew.
He took notes on every little talk he'd had with Commissioner Loeb. Dates, times -- it was all there.
Two weeks and five days in jail and he remembered where he kept the notes.

Loeb's holding up pretty well under the strain.
Judge Norton's on the case, so I don't think Dent has a chance of putting him behind bars--
--but word is Loeb's conferring with the mayor on the terms of his resignation.

They've already got Grogan primed to replace him, who's worse. Still, things aren't so bad, right now.
December 3
The Roman's been at war with his sister ever since he tried to get a hired knife slid between his nephew's ribs.
They were all too busy to stand in the way of my promotion to Captain.
I had a few run-ins with his sister, back in Chicago, a few years ago. I don't envy the Roman.
88


Sarah's in New York, doing well, I hear.
Barbara's not crazy about the marriage counselor, but we're making progress.
As for me -- well, there's a real panic on. Somebody's threatened to poison the Gotham reservoir.

Calls himself the Joker.
I've got a friend coming who might be able to help.
Should be here any minute.

END

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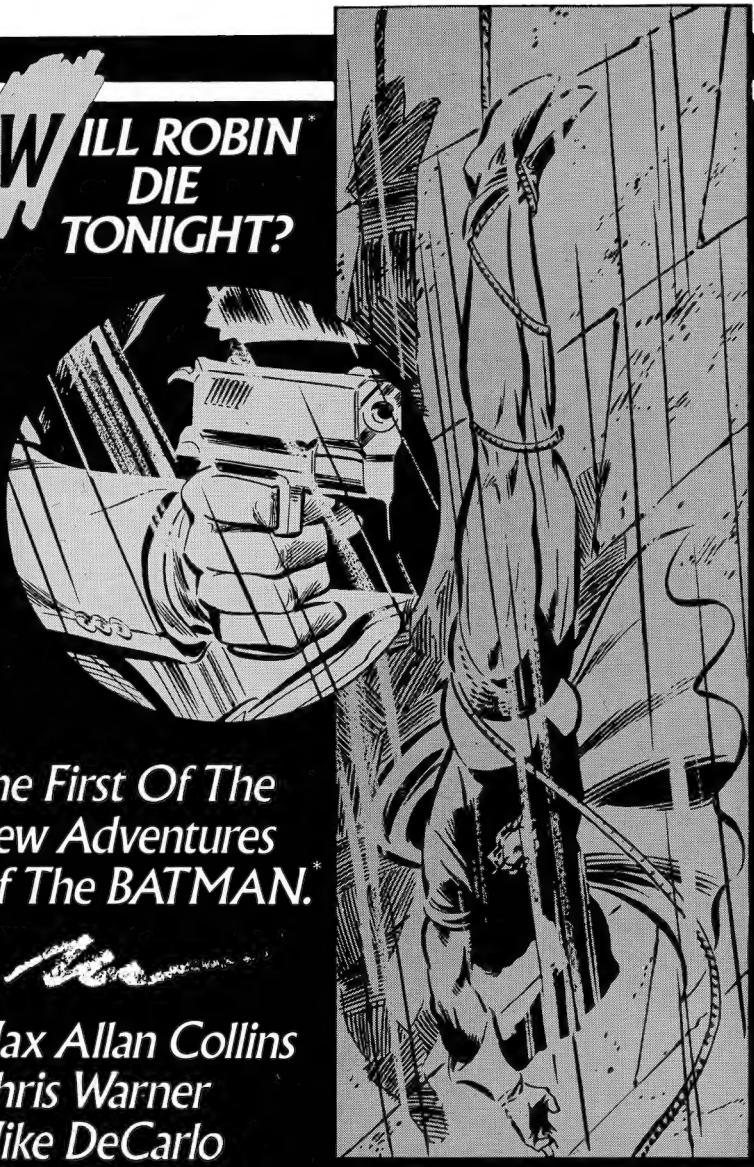

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